	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	09/804,424	BATES ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thanhnga B. Truong	2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *12/23/2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-2, 4-9, 11-16*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

       1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

       Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1.   During a telephone conference on February 15, 2006, Mr. Grant Johnson has authorized examiner to do Examimer's Amendment in regarding to claims 1, ,2, 12, 13, 14, and 16 to correct typographical errors and to clarify 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph issue.

CLAIMS:

a.   *Referring to claim 1:*

Please replace claim 1 as follows:

An electronic processing device, comprising:

(a)   a user interface to interact with a user;

(b)   location detection electronics within the electronic processing device;

(c)   processing electronics within the electronic processing device connected to the user interface and the location detection electronics;

(d)   memory to store a plurality of functions/applications , and at least one geographic location in which at least one function/application is enabled, and an enablement bit to enable the at least one function/application in the geographic location, the memory within the electronic processing device and connected to the processing electronics; and

(e)   a verifier to periodically determine that the electronic processing device is still within the geographic region while the at least one function/application is enabled, and if not, to disable the at least one function/application.

b.   *Referring to claim 2:*

Please replace claim 2 as follows:

A method to access an application/function in an electronic processing device, comprising the steps of:

(a)   invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

(b)   obtaining the GPS location from GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device of a first geographic location and creating boundaries by extending a selected distance from the GPS location to derive a first geographic region;

(c)   associating at least one application/function of the electronic processing device with the first geographic region;

(d)   enabling a user to access the at least one application/function of the electronic device only when the electronic device is in the first geographic region based solely on whether the electronic processing device is within the geographic region associated with the at least one application/function by determining the present location of the electronic device using GPS signals processed by GPS processing electronics within the electronic device, and enabling the electronic device based on an enablement bit within the electronic device;

(e)   periodically confirming that the electronic device is still within the first geographic region while the at least one application/function is enabled; and

(f)   disabling the at least one application/function when the electronic device is moved out of the first geographic region while the at least one application/function is enable.

c.   *Referring to claim 12:*

Please replace claim 12 as follows:

A method to protect an electronic processing device from unauthorized use, comprising the steps of:

(a)   invoking a user interface of the electronic processing device;

(b)   entering a description of at least one geographic location by a method selected from the group of methods consisting of: obtaining the GPS location from GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device and creating boundaries by extending a selected distance from the GPS location, delineating the boundaries of the first geographic region using a graphical user interface on a map containing the first geographic region, entering the longitude and latitude of the

boundaries of the geographic region, and entering a street address associated with a geographic region;

(c)   invoking at least one application/function stored on the electronic processing device;

(d)   associating each of the at least one application/function with one of the at least one geographic region by enabling a bit in memory of the electronic processing device which indicates that the at least one application/function can be enabled with the at least one geographic region;

(e)   determining the present location of the electronic processing device using GPS signals processed by GPS processing electronics within the electronic processing device;

(f)   assigning priority to the at least one geographic region;

(g)   allowing the user to use the at least one application/function in the at least one geographic region solely because the at least one geographic region is the geographic region associated with the at least one application/function;

(h)   indicating that the electronic processing device has moved out of the associated geographic region; and

(i)   notifying a user that the at least one application/function should be aborted.

d.   _Referring to claim 13:_

Please replace claim 13 as follows:

An article of manufacture, comprising a data storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine readable instructions executable by an electronic processing apparatus to perform method steps for operating the electronic processing apparatus, said method steps comprising the steps of:

(a)   storing a plurality of descriptions of geographic regions in memory of an electronic processing apparatus;

(b)   storing a plurality of applications/functions in memory of an electronic processing apparatus, each associated with one or more of the descriptions of geographic regions by storing an enablement bit in memory of the electronic

processing apparatus for one of the plurality of applications/functions for one or more of the descriptions of geographic regions;

> (c)   assigning a priority to each of the plurality of descriptions of geographic regions;

> (d)   determining and periodically updating the present location of the electronic processing device; and

> (e)   allowing a user to use an application/function of the electronic processing device in the present location solely because the present location is within the description of the geographic region associated with the application/function of the electronic processing device.

> e.   *Referring to claim 14:*

> Please replace claim 14 as follows:

> A secure electronic processing device, comprising:

> (a)   means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of descriptions of geographic locations in which said secure electronic processing device may be used;

> (b)   means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of geographic-specific applications/functions;

> (c)   means within the secure electronic processing device to store a plurality of enablement bits, each of the enablement bits enables on of the plurality of geographic-specific applications/functions in at least one of the plurality of descriptions of geographic locations;

> (d)   means within the secure electronic processing device to periodcally determine that present location of said electronic processing device;

> (e)   means within the secure electronic processing device to determine that said present location is one of said geographic locations;

> (f)   means within the secure electronic processing device to invoke a geographic-specific application/function;

> (g)   means within the secure electronic processing device to allow access to the invoked geographic-specific application/function because the

present location is one of said geographic locations associated and the invoked geographic-specific application/function has an enablement bit on.

  f. *Referring to claim 16:*

    Please replace claim 16 as follows:

    The secure electronic processing device of claim 15, further comprising means to abort the invoked geographic-specific application/function solely because the present location is not one of said geographic locations associated with the invoked geographic-specific application/function.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-2, 4-9, and 11-16 are allowed.

  The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The limitation of memory to store a plurality of functions/applications , and at least one geographic location in which at least one function/application is enabled, and an enablement bit (or enable signal) to enable the function/application in the geographic location, the memory within the electronic processing device and connected to the processing electronics is not adequately met by the prior arts.

  Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanhnga (Tanya) Truong whose telephone number is 571-272-3858.

  If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached at 571-272-3859. The fax and phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135

TBT

February 15, 2006